(c) whether a special dispensation is being made in tribal and economically backward areas where the health and medical coverage is minimal?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS):(a) to (c) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) envisages having Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) for one thousand population in every village in ten high focus States namely Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Orissa, Rajasthan, Assam and Jammu & Kashmir. However, the other States are free to have health link workers like ASHA, provided they are ready to meet the cost of their training and medical kits with the Flexible Funds provided to them.

As per the Guidelines issued by the Government of India, one ASHA is to cover a population of one thousand. However in tribal, hilly and desert areas, in the above ten States, the norm could be relaxed to one ASHA per habitation, depending on her workload. The NRHM provides operational freedom to the States to adopt appropriate models, including appointment of link workers for tribal area.

Rotting of Foodgrains

†111.PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of foodgrains is rotting due to lack of storage facilities with the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the quantum and value thereof during last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) There is adequate storage

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

facility available with the FCI for stocking of foodgrains. As on 1.1.2006, a quantity of 59,781 MT of damaged foodgrains was lying in the FCI godown which constitutes only 0.63% of the total foodgrains stock held by the FCI on the said date.

(b) During the last three years (2002-03 to 2004-05), there was accrual of a quantity of 3.08 lakh MT of damaged foodgrains valued at Rs. 197.56 crores in the godowns of the FCI. The State-wise details are indicated in the enclosed statement (*See* below).

(c) The FCI is taking necessary steps to prevent damage to foodgrains which, *inter-alia,* include the following:—

(i) Ensuring proper quality checking of foodgrains at the time of procurement;

(ii) Ensuring that all its own godowns are constructed and maintained on scientific lines for storage of foodgrains;

(iii) Provision for adequate dunnage and plinth for storage of foodgrains in open in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage with covering of specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water proof sheets with proper lashing by nylon ropes/nets;

(iv) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns by qualified and trained staff;

(v) Undertaking of prophylactic and curative treatments of the stocks regularly;

(vi) Undertaking pest control measures regualry;

(vii) Implementation of the procedure of "First in, First Out" (FIFO) to the extent possible so as to avoid longer retention of stocks;

(viii) Movement of foodgrains from one place to another by safe means, *i.e.*, covered wagons, etc;

(ix) Undertaking pre-monsoon fumigation; and

(x) Improvement in dunnage material.

Statement

Statewise details of damaged Foodgrains accrued with the FCI during the years 2002-03 to 2004-05.

Quantity in MTs
Value in Rs. lakh

State	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		Grand Total	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
Bihar	1655	102.1	493	33.0	400	25.9	2548	161.0
Jharkhand	124	7.6	39	2.6	205	13.3	368	23.5
Orissa	564	34.8	1	0.1	1161	75.2	1726	110.1
W. Bengal	3029	186.8	2138	143.0	5128	332.3	10295	662.1
Assam	402	24.8	949	63.5	309	20.0	1660	108.3
NEF	165	10.2	169	11.3	194	12.6	528	34.1
Nagaland & Manipur	0	0.0	49	3.3	51	3.3	100	6.6
Delhi	624	38.5	2327	155.6	213	13.8	3164	207.9
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Haryana	2447	150.9	107	7.2	2	0.1	2556	158.2
J&K	157	9.7	587	39.3	0	0.0	744	48.9
Punjab	109961	6781.8	59148	3956.2	72556	4701.6	241665	15439.6
Rajasthan	787	48.5	350	23.4	47	3.0	1184	75.0
Uttar Pradesh	4708	290.4	1363	91.2	13343	864.6	19414	1246.2
Uttaranchal	13	0.8	66	4.4	2	0.1	81	5.3
Andhra Pradesh	1847	113.9	635	42.5	166	10.8	2648	167.1
Kerala	106	6.5	197	13.2	135	8.7	438	28.5
Karnataka	1555	95.9	572	38.3	188	12.2	2315	146.3
Tamil Nadu	227	14.0	284	19.0	118	7.6	629	40.6
Gujarat	1477	91.1	4187	280.1	299	19.4	5963	390.5
Maharashtra	1831	112.9	1610	107.7	695	45.0	4136	265.6
Madhya Pradesh	2104	129.8	735	49.2	1890	122.5	4729	301.4
Chhattisgarh	1688	104.1	262	17.5	125	8.1	2075	129.7
TOTAL:	135471	8355.2	76268	5101.3	97227	6300.3	308966	19756.7

Note: The value ,of the damaged stocks has been computed on the basis of average sales realisation of the FCI.

NEF=Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura.